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1. Form PTO/SB/21 Transmittal Form (1 pg.);
2. Applicants' Interview Summary (3 pgs.); and
3. Fax Cover Sheet with Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8 (1 pg.).

Total pages (including this paper): 5

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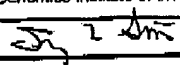
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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>	Application Number	09/765,207
	Filing Date	01/17/2001
	First Named Inventor	BROCK, Ansgar
	Art Unit	2856
	Examiner Name	
(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	5	Attorney Docket Number P0021US00

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm	Genomics Institute of the Novartis Research Foundation		
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Printed Name	Timothy L. Smith, Ph.D.		
Date	January 5, 2005	Reg. No.	35,387

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By: Jill R. Clarke

Jill R. Clarke

Attorney Docket No.: P0021US00

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

BROCK, Ansgar et al.

Application No.: 09/765,207

Confirmation No.: 5731

Filed: January 17, 2001

For: SAMPLE DEPOSITION  
METHOD AND SYSTEM

Art Unit: 2856

Examiner: NOLAND, Thomas

**APPLICANTS' INTERVIEW  
SUMMARY**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants' summary of the Examiner Interview of December 20, 2004 in the above-identified matter is provided below. The undersigned attorney thanks the Examiner for extending the courtesy of an interview.

**1) Description of Exhibits and/or Demonstrations**

Applicants' attorney played two video clips which demonstrate the operation of the sample deposition system claimed by Applicants. In particular, the video clips demonstrated that the system claimed by Applicants includes an HPLC source which causes liquid to flow through a capillary even without the application of an electric field.

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**2) Claims Discussed**

Claims discussed included independent claims 68 and 83, as amended in the Amendment and Request for Continued Examination filed December 16, 2004.

**3) Cited References Discussed**

Cited references that were discussed included O'Connor *et al.*, US 2002/0003177 ("O'Connor"), Sauter (US 6,149,815), King (US 6,132,582), and Morozova *et al.* (*Anal. Chem.* 71: 3110-3117 (1999)).

**4) Principal Proposed Amendments**

The amendments presented in the Amendment and Request for Continued Examination filed December 16 were discussed. In particular, the discussion focused on the claim element added to claim 68 (and present in newly added claim 83) which recites that the sample deposition system claimed by Applicants includes "a high pressure liquid chromatography (HPLC) source in fluid communication with the capillaries, which HPLC source causes a liquid to flow through and form a droplet at an end of each capillary."

**5) General Thrust of Principal Arguments**

The arguments presented during the interview are essentially the same as those provided in the December 16, 2004 Amendment. In particular, the claims, as amended in the December 16, 2004 Amendment, recite that the claimed system includes an HPLC source that causes the flow of liquid through the capillary even prior to application of the electric field. Applicants' attorney pointed out that both the HPLC source and the flow of liquid in the absence of the electric field are features that distinguish the claimed invention from those described in the cited references. Applicants' attorney pointed out language in the cited references which teaches away from a sample deposition system having an HPLC source, and from systems in which fluid flows through a capillary even in the absence of an electric field.

With respect to claim 83, it was pointed out that these two claim elements are sufficient to distinguish the claimed system even without the claim limitations that were previously added to claim 68 to overcome rejections over Sauter and King (i.e., that the electric field is formed by applying a charge to the sample plate and grounding the liquid droplet).

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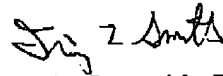
6) **Other Pertinent Matters Discussed**

Not applicable.

7) **General Results or Outcome of the Interview**

Examiner Noland agreed that, with the HPLC source limitation, the claims distinguish over the cited references, although further review would be needed to make certain of this fact (particularly with respect to claim 83).

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy L. Smith, Ph.D.  
Reg. No. 35,367

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